Welcome Back to Term 4
It is hard to believe that term 4 is here already. I spent the first week of the school holidays on a fishing trip with my son and despite the poor weather we managed to catch a few. The second week was spent catching up on some chores and work for school. A highlight was participating in the Light the Night walk on Friday which is to raise funds and awareness for blood cancers. It was a beautiful evening for a great cause.

I (Anni) had a lovely holiday also. My mum and sister came for a visit from Queensland — just in time for the great weather. We spent the weekend at Phillip Island doing all the usually touristy things. Last week I enjoyed catching up with girlfriends, having lunch and just enjoying the beautiful weather. We hope you all managed some wonderful family time and are ready for a big term 4.

Planning for 2016
During the next few weeks we will be focussed on the 2016 indicative Student Resource Package (School Budget) for our school and the staffing structure this will accommodate at Mt Dandenong PS next year. In terms of class sizes, the Prep to Year 2 grades will continue at around 20 - 24 students whilst those at Years 3 - 6 comprise numbers between 25 - 28 students. We would also expect to continue our current commitment in the provision of our specialist and support programs.

Student Planning and Placement for 2016
Teaching staff are now beginning discussions regarding the placement of children in grades for 2016. This is a complex task as there are many factors to take into account in trying to get the best mix for all students to learn to their utmost ability. When developing class lists, teachers ensure that each class has an equitable spread of boys and girls with a range of academic abilities. Student compatibility and behaviour is also taken into account and students are placed with some friends with whom they work well. This process takes many hours of consideration and planning with the main objective being to place students so that their learning potential is maximised.

I would ask that if you have matters that are of interest to the educational wellbeing of your child, please send a written request to me by Friday October 16th. This of course is not a case of parents selecting teachers for their children, but rather an opportunity for me to gain an insight into the matters you see as important to the educational wellbeing of your child, and to consider this carefully in the allocation of students to classes. This information may be shared with teaching staff, if it is required, when considering student placement for 2016. Please contact me if you have any further queries in this area.

Families leaving the school
Please assist us with planning for 2016 by providing written notification if, due to moving out of the area or changed family circumstances, your child will not be attending our school next year.

Landscaping Work Completed
Thanks to the generosity of Richard Bellomo and his suppliers we now have a much safer and usable embankment behind the SLU building. Richard kindly did the works at well below the regular cost to support our school. He and his crew have removed the steep slippery path and replaced it with an amphitheatre type arrangement that includes a meandering path from the upper level to the oval.

We have about two hundred plants donated by the Yarra Ranges Shire to be planted in this area in the coming weeks. We will organise a community planting day to get this done. Please wander down, have a look and enjoy the space.

Curriculum Day on Monday 12th of October – OSHClub is available
Please remember that next Monday is a curriculum day and students are not required to attend school. OSHClub is available for those families who wish to use this service. Please book as soon as possible.

The teachers will be working together to prepare the strategic direction of our school for the next four years.

Our theme is ‘From Good to Great’ and we will be focussing on the recently completed strategic review.

Canteen News
As you are aware, our canteen has been re-invented for Term 4 and we are looking forward to some delicious meals. However, they are in desperate need of help. Please add your name to the list in the office.

Purpose Statement
Mount Dandenong Primary School values our unique environment and close community. It is a place for creative opportunities and academic excellence, nurturing respect, happiness and independence.
Sun Smart – Term 4
During terms 1 and 4 all students are required to wear wide brimmed or legionnaire style green school hats to protect them from the Sun's harmful UV rays when they are outdoors. Those students who do not have a hat will be required to play in the undercover area adjacent to the junior playground at recess and lunch time.
We also encourage all students to bring a pop top style drink bottle, with water only in it, for consumption during the day. Students are permitted to have these at their tables in class.

Asbestos Removal Notice
Our unused portables are going to be transported to another school by the end of this term and in preparation for the move any asbestos contained in them has to be removed prior to transportation. As such the Department of Education have organised for these works to occur on the 12th of October by qualified contractors.
Please note that whilst contractors will be on site during the day no asbestos removal will take place until after 6.30pm. Whilst the amount of asbestos is small we ask that all of our community members and staff are not onsite from 6.30pm onwards.
We are able to resume at regular starting time the next day.

Have Fun Miss Tomlinson
Miss Tomlinson is currently enjoying a cruise while she is on Long Service Leave we hope she has a great time. Mr Mulvogue is replacing Miss Tomlinson for the next two weeks. Welcome Mr Mulvogue.

Extra Curricula Activities
Chess Club returns this Wednesday and all grade 3 – 6 students interested are encouraged to collect a notice from the office.
Tennis Coaching for prep to 2 students starts with a free trial session on Wednesday at lunchtime. Students interested are encouraged to join in.
They will receive a sign up form at the trial session to take home afterwards if they are interested in participating.

Thumbs Up To:
Thomas and Jenny who cared for our chooks during the holidays

Thank you, Michael Leonard and Anni Smart

Emergency Management Procedures

School Closures on Code Red Days
Should there be a predicted Code Red day all school community members will be notified via a letter sent home with the students, TiqBiz notification and an SMS message three days prior to the predicted closure to inform them. One day prior to the closure day/days another letter, TiqBiz notification and SMS will confirm the closure. When final confirmation is given it will not be altered regardless of changes in weather conditions that may occur.
If the school is closed, nobody will be on site. This includes all staff and students. The Out of School Hours Care Program will also be closed.
Families will be required to make alternate arrangements for the day.
It is recommended that you enact your fire plans on these days.

Active Fire Procedures
In the event of an active fire occurring in the area all students will be evacuated to the safer place which currently encompasses the Quicksmart room and Grade 3/4 rooms and the multi-purpose room. Parents will be notified that this has taken place via an SMS message.
We ask that you do not come to the school to collect your children, at this time, as the potential for traffic closures and hazards, which in such conditions could result in tragic consequences as was the case in the Black Saturday fires. Parents will again be notified via SMS when the CFA, DEECD and Emergency Services deem it safe to collect the students.
Please note that the school’s Safer Place is not a community refuge and we discourage you from using it as a plan of action in your family’s emergency management plan.
Mt Dandenong OSHClub: week 1- newsletter  
5th of October 2015

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<td>BSC</td>
<td>Group game &amp; Chalk drawing</td>
<td>China wall &amp; Puppets</td>
<td>Connect 4 &amp; Giants treasure</td>
<td>Penalty ball &amp; Show and share</td>
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<td>BREKXY</td>
<td>Cereal, Milk, Toast, Muffins, Yoghurt and fresh fruit</td>
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<td>ASC</td>
<td>Get creative! Recycled construction &amp; Frisbee</td>
<td>AASC Table tennis &amp; Play role play Holiday events</td>
<td>Cooking club! Chocolate mouse &amp; Line tipy</td>
<td>Friday fun day Bop it game &amp; Shadow puppets</td>
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<td>ASC TEA</td>
<td>Healthy pizzas and a plate of watermelon, mandarin and grapes</td>
<td>Plate of Veg, crackers and dip with a plate of watermelon, grapes and oranges</td>
<td>Raini toast with butter and a plate of watermelon, apple and banana</td>
<td>Salad, ham and cheese wraps with a plate of watermelon, oranges and apple</td>
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OSHClub would like to welcome all the children, parents, teachers and community members back to the last term of 2015! This Term we have jam-packed so many fun activities and themes for everyone to enjoy! So keep a look out and book in your children to come have some fun!

To finish off Term 3 we had our annual OSHClub disco! Thank you for the whole community for helping us prepare from games, lighting and attendance! It was such a great night! The children got to have fun dancing while simultaneously engaging in and contributing to play and leisure experiences, while spending a large portion of time interacting verbally and non-verbally with their peers. It is a great way to reach out to the community and have OSHClub become active members in contributing to the community, developing strong relationships and partnerships.

So next time you see the disco advertised come along and have a boogie ☺

This week we are looking back at all the fun we had over the school holidays. Through drawings, show and tell, puppets and constructions the children will be able to communicate their holiday and what was meaningful to them.

We are still looking for any used books for our OSHClub book swap and old batteries for our battery drive. We thank everyone who has already contributed.

FRIENDLY REMINDERS: To cancel an ASC sessions please do so on the internet by 3pm on the day before, send us a text on: 0419 915 649 or let an educator know you are collecting your child. There is a $2 a minute fee for each child that is picked up after 6:15pm. Please book children in online. This is important as we need to staff appropriately for children attending.

Rory came as Superman to the disco! How cool!

Charlotte, Hayli and Sam at the OSHClub Disco!

Happy Birthday to: 
Jade Dooley 6/10 
Sarah Gass 9/10 
Taylor Hutchin 10/10

Crunchy Dragonflies
Use a halved small peeled carrot for the dragonfly body. Create wings using unpeeled apple wedges decorated with dried cranberries or sultanas. Pretzel or celery sticks are perfect for the antennas. Serve with a glass of reduced fat milk.

Here is our healthy lunchbox idea for the week.
Parent Helpers Course

One of the many features of Mount Dandenong Primary School is the excellent co-operation between our teachers and parents. We believe that the best learning environment is created when there is a strong partnership between parents, teachers and students. You have an important role in their success. Your presence in the classroom will provide the teacher with valuable help in giving individual and small group assistance. In whatever way you choose to help, you can be sure your contribution is needed and valued.

The research is unequivocal...students do better at school when parents are involved in their child’s schooling. To provide you with the skills to support you in this role we are introducing a ‘Parent Helper’s Course’.

Parent Helper role:
- To support the teacher in creating the optimal learning environment
- To support the students with their learning
- Assist in the classroom under the direction of the teacher
- Provide a role model for learning

The Parent Helpers course will be conducted over 4 weeks with each workshop session lasting an hour, 9 – 10 a.m. The course commences on Tuesday 13th October.

Course Components:
- Knowing about our learners
- Mount Dandenong Literacy Framework
- CAFE reading program – comprehension strategies
- Reading strategies – supporting students with their reading
- Spelling program
- Literature circles – small group work / Oral Language Development
- Writing program – supporting students with their writing
- Mount Dandenong Numeracy Framework

All parent helpers completing the course, are required to have the ‘Working With Children Check’ and this must be presented to the Office staff where a photocopy will be recorded on file. This check is free for volunteers. Application forms can be obtained from any Post Office.

On completion of all the workshop components of the course you will be issued with a Certificate of Achievement at our graduation.

If you would like to participate in the 2015 Parent Helper’s Course commencing on Tuesday 13th October at 9.00a.m., please either contact the school on 9751 1136 or complete and return the expression of interest form below.

If you would like further information, please don’t hesitate to contact me. I look forward to meeting with you soon.

Anni Smart and Michael Leonard

PARENT HELPERS EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR THE MDPS 2015 PARENT HELPER’S COURSE

NAME: ___________________________ Mobile: ___________________________

NAME & GRADE OF STUDENT/S AT MDPS:

________________________________________________________

I am interested in participating in the 2015 Parent Helper’s Course   Yes / No
I am unable to participate in the 2015 Parent Helper’s Course but would like to be informed of future courses    Yes / No
Thursday 22\textsuperscript{nd} October 6pm-8pm and Friday 23\textsuperscript{rd} October 9am-11am.

Our annual Art Show is in its fourth year. The students have worked with members of our local community and parents to create some wonderful pieces for the exhibition. We hope all families can make it along to what should be a fabulous show.

**Raffle**

As part of this year’s Art Show we are running a raffle to win some fabulous hampers filled with art supplies. Please support our Art program by selling your raffle tickets to family, friends and neighbours to go into the prize draw. Further information and the raffle tickets will be sent home with your child this week.

**Can you donate a trolley item?**

This year we are asking parents if they can help out by donating a shopping trolley item to add to the hampers. The hamper prizes are typically items like: pencils, paints, brushes, felt pens, canvases, craft goods or any other art related item you can come up with. In supporting the raffle you help to ensure the ongoing success of the wonderful Art program at our school. Donations can be left at the office.

**Art Show – Help wanted please...**

This year we have 200 pieces of art that require framing using pre-cut cardboard mounts. We will be having a Working Bee in the Art room on Saturday 17\textsuperscript{th} October to frame and display this artwork.

Due to the large number of pieces needing to be framed, if you are able to assist prior to this Working Bee, please see me in the Art room on Tuesday or Wednesday or leave a message at the office.

Thank you, Liz Kennedy

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**MOUNT DANDENONG PRIMARY TENNIS COACHING**

Some exciting news for term 4 at Mount Dandenong PS— There will be tennis coaching on a Wednesday at lunch times.

This will be available to Preps, grade 1 and grade 2 to begin with. The first Wednesday of term 4, 7th of October, will be a free trial lesson for all Preps to grade 2 who are interested.

Classes will be full of fun, excitement, energy and will use the ANZ hotshots modified tennis equipment, that makes learning the game of tennis easy.

Cost will be $80 for the term, which will get your child 8 lunch time lessons that will run for 50 min. All students who wish to play will need to get a sign up sheet from Lee, the tennis coach, and return it to Lee filled out by your parents. Looking forward to some great tennis in term 4.

Lee Patrick, Tennis Australia Club Professional Coach—\texttt{M: 0412402265}.

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**DRUM LESSONS IN TERM 4**

Hi, My names Luke, I teach drums at Mt Dandenong Primary School. There are a few spots open for lessons in term 4. If drums is something you’ve been wanting to give a try I would love to hear from you.

A few details....

- Lessons are during school hours
- Are 30 minutes long
- Are all Individual lessons
- Students can expect to gain knowledge in music theory as well as learning popular songs.

Please feel free to contact me on,

LUKE MCVIOR
\texttt{M: 0415 705 616}
\texttt{E: LjMcvior@gmail.com}
New lunch order menu!
WEEK 1 FRIDAY 9 OCTOBER

Pumpkin soup and roll $4
Homemade chicken & leek pie $4
Homemade beef pie $4
Freshly baked quiche (spinach, pumpkin & cheddar cheese) $5
Penne Pasta salad (chicken, sweetcorn, cucumber & capsicum) $5
Filled pitta bread pockets with marinated chicken and salad (half or whole $3/$5)
A small side salad can be added to any items for an extra $1.50

Don’t forget the weekly surprise snacks!
Available to purchase from the canteen on Fridays. Bring your coins, all items $1 and $2
Girls Night In

Fundraiser for Cancer Council
8 pm on Saturday 10th October
Venue: St Michael’s Hall
Cnr Falls and Mt Dandenong Tourist Rds
Sequel to a movie about a certain exotic hotel
(copyright prevents name being published)

Enjoy a break with a
Massage or Natural Facial
It’s a fast & effective way to relax and unwind
Call or text Melinda 0411 622 445
at Elle Naturale Olinda
Shop 1 / 1606 Mt Dandenong Tourist Rd Olinda
www.ellenaturaleolinda.com.au
Open every day!
Join me for free meditation every Wednesday morning at 9.15am

Cancer Council Victoria - Relay for Life 2015. “Driven by Dave” Team’s Annual Fundraising Event

Heroes & Villains Trivia Night
Saturday 17th October
7pm
MDPS Multi-Purpose Room
Tickets $20.00 (Adults Only)
To Reserve Your Table - Phone Ali: 0425 757 476
## October 2015

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<td>First day of Term 4</td>
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<td>Curriculum Day—Student Free Day</td>
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<td>School Council</td>
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<td><strong>MDPS Art Show</strong> <strong>6pm-8pm</strong></td>
<td><strong>MDPS Art Show</strong> <strong>8:30am-11:00am</strong></td>
<td><strong>Prep Transition 1</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Music Count Us In</strong>—12:30pm</td>
<td><strong>Prep Transition 2</strong></td>
<td><strong>World Teachers’ Day</strong></td>
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<td>Melbourne Cup Public Holiday</td>
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<td>2016 Prep Information Night 7:30pm</td>
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<td>Orientation Day and Prep BBQ</td>
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<td>Prep—2 Swimming Fun Day</td>
<td>Grade 6 Graduation</td>
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<td>Last day of Term 4</td>
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